

## Information-Sharing - Good as Gold or Gone with the Wind?

Media revenues and concentrations are Big Business. Big enough to warrant subsidies by Big Government trying to keep the Brave New World -or New World Order as Bush Senior called it - going despite the end of the Cold War. Bush's Attorney General Richard Thornburgh is on record in a federal court in Washington as confirming that the Reagan administration collected information on an American citizen and shared that classified, top secret, and confidential information not only with other governments, but media, and the general public. Spying on citizens is what the Communists did to sustain the oppressive control of the Soviet state. But in the US, the multi-million dollar cost of national and global "security" is only as good as what you make of it, and in this case, capitalist profits acquired from the sharing of "intelligence" information for media reproductions is only a means to an end in its Big Brother world.

Penetration of the public airwaves and market penetration by media organizations with intelligence information is rarely mentioned in discussions about the "free press" or "free expression" in entertainment industries. Only the British recently admitted they were trying to win the "hearts and minds" of Iraqis by distributing humanitarian aid to a war-torn population. They didn't stand forth to address the nature of brainwashing, propaganda, or the free flow of information from intelligence-gathering as the basis for US or UK foreign policy and the pursuit of wealth from political or economic policies which have jeopardized the peace and stability of the world for seventy five years. Instead the US rushed in with "Radio Free Iraq" to push its hidden agendas even further into a defenseless country and ensure clandestine, collective control of the airwaves for Big Business. It is hard to imagine Western governments who spy on their citizens, brainwash foreign populations, and broadcast "free" but distorted news addressing the problems of media concentration when pornography, TV programs, and DVD's are distributed in Iraq to ensure continued collective control over the airwaves for capitalist hate-mongers.

The US has long sought to cloak such practices under a veil of "secrecy." It relies on Access Hollywood not to report on the information it gathers from spying on an American citizen in order to retain access to the public airwaves for sale of gossip about the movie industry whose films are made from information-gathering on real persons. Public access to persons, public access to the airwaves, but no public access for the public has been US communications policy for almost a century. The "right to access", like the "right to know," is frequently obfuscated by a government which seeks to hide its illegal information-sharing with the press and entertainment industries by back-room "agreements" about restraint of trade for monopoly corporations and demands for "silence" about those agreements in good old mafia tradition. As recent events have shown, "secrecy" about national security, defense, and intelligence has become more intense as media corporations seek to to preserve, proliferate, and penetrate foreign markets.

Habituated to spying on the private life of a citizen, and publicly disclosing private facts for public broadcast and humiliation prohibited by the 1st Amendment (infra red in your dark bathroom, mattress ads for TV sleepeaze, thought control programming), US

media organizations have pervasively spread a TV culture of callousness, distortion, and disregard for the rights of others which has become epidemic across the world. Unwilling to report the abuse of state-sponsored intelligence information in return for illusory proceeds from government deregulation, US media has come to believe that its crude, standardless, and biased productions are above the law, traditional social precepts, and accountability as they permeate society and destroy almost every value civilized societies have developed over centuries.

Daily, they devise sitcoms, violent action dramas, or news magazine segments whose "subjects" are taken from the tortious interception of an American citizen, sending LCD figures on the air to gloat over their "control" of material they can reproduce for sale, material obtained by the total invasion of privacy of a citizen deprived of contract, payment or relief from mass media prying for years. Few could imagine something worse than the spectacles of ancient Rome but US media have in fact far extended the barbaric practices of this gladiator society.

Operating in a "theater of operations", US media organizations find little wrong with totalitarian control of the airwaves for the continuous, twenty-four hour a day extortion of a defenseless citizen. They show little moral capacity to find anything amiss about radio interception of persons, quotations from a private telephone call, or the display of disgusting images personifying an individual in their bid to become the omnipresent purveyor of a "culture" of human obviation in a society which has long rejected the premises of LCD media. Nor do US media organizations see anything wrong with collective human traffickin which permits political control of the press, public debate, and elections. It allows Tim Russert of NBC to moderate your election debates, Congress to pick candidates from its own corrupt ranks, third parties to be barred from presidential debates, press polls to decide approval ratings, public rebuttals to be shut out, election ballots to be rigged, and public life to be controlled by those least able to manage it. They prefer a society of "fear" over "freedom", one in which a few can acquire wealth, influence, and political power through abuse of intelligence information and pretend the destructive results are irrelevant.

To an American whose books, work, income, real property, reputation, trade, religion, and associations have "Gone With the Wind" over fifteen years of unalleviated information-sharing by the US and media, one who faces an unrecalitrant Congress with a Patriot II Act authorizing application of indeterminate surveillance to officially, if secretly, hand down a death sentence, the frauds perpetrated by US media in glowing color hardly hide the unreasonable abuse of the public trust. It is far better to separate a free press from intelligence transmissions, establish news and public debate standards, produce clear rules for "free expression" containing violence, obscenity, or offensive material, and limit concentrations of media in a marketplace where "ideas" aren't "free" but must be attributed, purchased, and liable. The media are not alchemists turning information obtained from a citizen into gold, nor are they the arbiters of public life. They are not rulers of the "free" world without public consent and they are not dictators of public opinion without public right. They are state-sponsored terrorists who need regulations enforced to be permitted to operate at all.

